

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PROVIDING WORK AUTHORIZATION
FOR NONIMMIGRANT SPOUSES
OF TREATY TRADERS AND
TREATY INVESTORS

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2001

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I support passage of this legislation, which was sponsored by Chairman GEKAS, Ranking Member JACKSON-LEE, and Congresswoman LOFGREN. Even though current law permits spouses of E visa holders to come to the United States, those same spouses are not allowed to work here. The effect is to limit a household to one income for no apparent reason.

H.R. 2277 reverses that by simply allowing the spouses to work in the United States. Not only is this good for immigrant families, which now would be able to rely on two incomes, but it also will increase the labor pool and increase tax revenues. For these reasons, the bill passed both the Immigration Subcommittee and the full Judiciary Committee by voice votes.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO MR. ROBERT L. BRANDT ON HIS RETIREMENT AS SUPERINTENDENT FROM THE VANTAGE CAREER CENTER

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2001

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to recognize a great man who has touched many young lives, Mr. Robert L. Brandt. Mr. Brandt has spent the last 25 years as superintendent of the Vantage Career Center in Van Wert, Ohio. This month, he is stepping down to take a less active role for the remainder of the year when he will officially retire.

In his 25 years, Mr. Brandt has turned the Vantage Career Center into one of the shining stars in the State of Ohio. In 1974, he was asked to join the effort to create a vocational school for Van Wert. He was responsible for choosing the site and developing a building financial plan to have the school open in two years. Right on schedule, the doors of the Vantage Vocational School, as it was originally known, opened in 1976 serving only four school districts. Today, more than eleven school districts send their students to the Vantage Vocational School. In addition, each year more than 5,000 dollars adults gain valuable work and career skills through Vantage's Adult Education Program.

Mr. Brandt has never taken his eye off what was truly important, the students. In a recent newspaper article he was quoted as saying, "My biggest joy in all of this is seeing the number of students who have attended Vantage who have made real successes of themselves—especially those who hadn't done very well in school before coming here."

Though Mr. Brandt officially stepped down as superintendent on July 1, 2001, he has remained at Vantage as Special Projects Coordinator ensuring a smooth transition for the new superintendent.

Mr. Speaker, year after year professionals such as Mr. Brandt dedicate their lives to the future of America. There is no more important or challenging job than that of our nation's educators. At this time, I ask my colleagues of the 107th Congress to join me in saluting Mr. Brandt and all that he has done for the youth of Ohio.

IN HONOR OF NEW YORK'S SCHOOL
OF STRINGS**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2001

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor New York's School for Strings on its 30th Anniversary. The School for Strings, which annually trains approximately 300 students and thirty teachers of violin, cello, and piano, is one of the oldest and most distinguished Suzuki programs in the United States. The school's founder and director, Miss Louise Behrend, was one of the first musicians and teachers to bring the Suzuki approach to the United States, and the success of the program today is evidence of her persistence and the school's excellence.

In its first thirty years, the School for Strings has enriched the lives of over one thousand families, teaching many the skills needed to earn placement in some of the finest graduate programs and orchestras in the country. Former School for Strings students can be heard in the orchestras of the Metropolitan Opera, the Boston Symphony, the Chicago Symphony, and numerous other world-class groups, and at the music conservations of such distinguished schools as Julliard, Eastman, Curtis, Peabody, and Oberlin. Equally prominent is the school's Teacher Training Program, which has graduated more than 400 qualified Suzuki teachers who bring their knowledge of music to many eager mind around the country.

The School for Strings has also added music into the lives of many underprivileged children through its Start-Up Program. The Start-Up Program pairs children with SFS teacher trainees at reduced rates. After three years, many of the students continue the Su-

zuki Program with scholarship assistance for the school. For the past five years, the School for Strings has offered an after-school Suzuki program at PS 116 with lessons three times a week in violin and cello for elementary school-age students.

The School for Strings, in its first 30 years, has brought to many the lifelong gift of being able to make music, and the accompanying discipline, concentration, and intellectual stimulation. These fortunate students will be tomorrow's orchestra musicians, talented amateurs and music lovers. On June 16th, 2001, twelve hundred of these former students gathered to fill Carnegie Hall with music, a celebration of the tremendous contribution the school has made to New York City and communities around the country. Congratulations to the School for Strings on 30 years of musical excellence, and I look forward to 30 more years of beautiful music!

PROVIDING FOR WORK AUTHORIZATION FOR NONIMMIGRANT SPOUSES OF INTRACOMPANY TRANSFEREES

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2001

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I support passage of this legislation, which makes two positive changes to immigration law. First, because of how current immigration law operates, multi-national companies are having a difficult time encouraging overseas employees to work in the United States. This is because U.S. law would not permit the spouses of those employees to work here; in essence, if the employee wants to relocate to the United States with a spouse, that spouse would have to give up his or her career. The effect is to deny such families the ability to seek two incomes and to limit our revenues from taxing that second income. To rectify this, H.R. 2278 changes the law so that spouses of intra-company transferees can work in the United States.

Second, current law requires that intra-company transferees be continuously employed in the United States for one year before being eligible for permanent residency here. This long waiting period makes it difficult for employers to bring qualified employees to the United States. H.R. 2278 corrects this situation by reducing the waiting period to six months. This bill is good for immigrant families, and it is good for employers.

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